This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Assays & screens			
Genomewide RNAi-based screen for host factors required for influenza virus replication	<p>An RNAi-based screen for identifying host factors required for influenza virus replication could guide the discovery of new therapeutic targets. The screen identified 168 human genes required for endemic H1N1, pandemic H1N1 and/or H5N1 influenza viral replication, including cyclin-dependent kinase inhibitor 1B (CDKN1B; p27; Kip1). Compared with wild-type animals, mice with Cdkn1b deficiency had lower viral loads in the lungs after intranasal H1N1 infection. Future studies could include further <i>in vivo</i> confirmation of the genes and designing inhibitors of the gene products.</p> <p>SciBX 3(4); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.129 Published online Jan. 28, 2010</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Karlas, A. <i>et al. Nature</i>; published online Jan. 17, 2010; doi:10.1038/nature08760</p> <p>Contact: Thomas Meyer, Max Planck Institute for Infection Biology, Berlin, Germany e-mail: tfm@mpiib-berlin.mpg.de</p>